



RESOURCE

Zero Suicide Leadership Letters

Suggested Text

Letter to Leadership

Dear CEO/Executive Director,

Thank you so much for your interest in joining the [Zero Suicide](#) initiative and supporting your organization's goal of improving suicide care for the individuals you serve.

Zero Suicide is intended to be an ongoing continuous quality improvement project that will impact all areas of your organization. Participation in Zero Suicide activities will positively impact the culture of your organization. It's not only a list of screenings and assessments or procedures and policies.

In addition to reducing suicidal deaths, Zero Suicide is also about creating a culture of support for your staff who are doing the very difficult hands-on work of suicide prevention. Research shows that one of the most important elements of any successful organizational change project is leadership support and engagement.

We know that you have many competing priorities and responsibilities but we hope that you will set Zero Suicide as an important priority of your organization. While you might not directly work with clients, your commitment to Zero Suicide vital.

When teams join a [Zero Suicide Academy](#) or [Zero Suicide Workshop](#) we ask them to provide a letter of commitment from their CEO or Executive Director stating explicit commitment and support of this work, not only attendance at the Academy or Workshop, but also the work that will come afterward.

While we recognize that zero is an aspiration goal, we do believe that no suicide is fated and that we can intervene in meaningful ways that can help people find hope and we are grateful for your organization's passion for this work.

Sincerely,

The Zero Suicide Team
Education Development Center (EDC)

Letter from Leadership

To the Zero Suicide team at EDC,

I am pleased to commit to supporting [ORGANIZATION]'s efforts to improve suicide care for the individuals we serve through the work of the Zero Suicide initiative. As a leader of [ORGANIZATION], I am committed to:

1. Helping to build internal capacity for the work on this project;
2. Working to change the necessary organizational policies and procedures in support;
3. Working to align our organizational culture with a just culture philosophy;
4. Actively assisting the implementation team to break the barriers to implementation of the processes and procedures related to improving suicide care.

Sincerely,

[LEADER]